

Suburban Rotary invites all District 5650 club members to join us in welcoming past Rotary International President Ray Klingensmith to Omaha!

Ray Klingensmith



Ray Klingensmith is a retired attorney in Kirksville, Missouri, USA, with 44 years of experience as a lawyer in Macon and Kirksville. He retired in August of 1995 as General Counsel and Professor of Business Administration for Truman State University (formerly Northeast Missouri State University) in Kirksville after 22 years of service. During his tenure at the University, he also served as Dean of Administration for a period of five years during the University's transition to a liberal arts and sciences institution. Following his retirement from the University, he served a four-year term as a county commissioner for Adair County from 2001 thru 2004.

Ray's wife, Judie, is a former elementary school teacher in Macon and Kirksville and a former consultant for the Child Development Assistant program at the Kirksville Area Vocational Center. Ray and Judie have two children, Leigh and Kurt, and three grandchildren, Morgan, Grant, and Sydney Perkins.

Ray is a graduate of the business school and the law school of the University of Missouri at Columbia. He is a member and senior counselor of The Missouri Bar, and he was awarded the Thomas D. Cochran Community Service Award by the Young Lawyers Section of The Missouri Bar in 1983.

Ray served as a director of the Macon Atlanta State Bank in Macon, Missouri, from 1971 to 2008, and he now serves as a director emeritus and a member of the holding company board. He was the president of Chariton Valley Association for Handicapped Citizens from its organization in 1982 until 2009, and he now serves as the president emeritus. He was one of the initial trustees for the Missouri Family Trust, which was created by the Missouri legislature in 1989, and he was accorded the 1988 Parent/Caretaker Award by the Missouri Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities. He is a former member of the Executive Board for the Great Rivers Council of the Boy Scouts of America and the holder of its Silver Beaver Award for adult volunteers. He is a member of the First United Methodist Church in Kirksville and a former lay speaker for the church.

A Rotarian for more than 50 years, Ray is a former member of the Unionville and Macon clubs and a current member of the Kirksville Rotary Club. He studied at the University of Cape Town as a Rotary Foundation ambassadorial scholar in 1961, and when he was elected to the board of directors for Rotary International in 1984, he became the first recipient of a Rotary Foundation award to serve on the RI board. He served as a Trustee of The Rotary Foundation from 2002 to 2006 and as vice chairman of the Trustees in 2005-06, and he has been awarded both the Citation for Meritorious Service and the Distinguished Service Award by the Foundation.

In other Rotary assignments, Ray served as moderator of the 1989 International Assembly in Phoenix, chairman of the 1998 Council on Legislation in New Delhi, vice chairman of the 2005 Chicago Convention Committee, and chairman of the 2008 Los Angeles Convention Committee. He has served in a variety of assignments for the codification of RI policies and the simplification of RI bylaws and similar documents. He also served as a member of the Future Vision Committee for The Rotary Foundation from 2005 to 2008. He recently completed a second term as a Trustee of The Rotary Foundation, and he served as the Trustee Chair in 2015-16.

Ray served as the president of Rotary International during the 2010-11 Rotary year as the 100th president of the organization, and he was the leader of a progressive board of directors. He was the first Missourian to serve as the Rotary president since Bob Hill of Columbia, Missouri, in 1934-35, and he was the first former Rotary scholar ever to serve as RI president.

When : March 15th
12:00 Noon

Where: Suburban Rotary
Anthony's
7220 F Street
Omaha, NE

Cost: \$16.00 / lunch

